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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



[*The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this Department.*]

OCCUPATIONS FOR OLDER NURSES

DEAR EDITOR: We have had articles on all sorts of nursing subjects on memorials and on sick benefit funds and work for the heathen,—now can we not have some information in regard to occupations for nurses who must support themselves but can no longer do nursing, not because of ill health but because they have reached middle age and show it in the lines that will come, especially if they have “looked pleasant,” and in the hair, that will turn gray; neither physician nor patient wants a grey-haired nurse and years of experience count for naught.

There are many of us now who have arrived at this stage of life and there are some wise virgins in our ranks who are solving the problem of supporting themselves by other lines of work. May we not hear from some of them?

MIDDLE AGE.

A NEW RULING FOR THE CANAL ZONE

DEAR EDITOR: There has been an order issued on the Isthmus that in the future all doctors and nurses who are ill must go to the general wards of hospitals or pay for the use of a private room. This may be of interest to nurses who are thinking of coming to the Isthmus.

Canal Zone.

A. B.

Copy of the rule effective Feb. 1, 1912.

Members of the staff who are patients in hospital and occupying private rooms will be charged the regular rate for Commission employees in private rooms—\$1.50 per day. Provided that, as with all other patients, if for professional reasons in the interest of the case itself or of other patients a private room is considered necessary by chief of clinic, he may secure a remission of the charge by addressing a written representation of the facts to the superintendent.

DIET DURING PREGNANCY

(The following letter was written as a reply to a query from a correspondent.—Ed.)

DEAR EDITOR: “R. S.” asks for diet “suitable during pregnancy, which is nonfattening but nourishing.”

No set rule is possible for normal cases, and when not normal a physician should direct the diet. A careful consultation of the best authorities on obstetrics furnishes good ground for the following suggestions: Where the nurse is depended upon to advise in the matter of diet, as mentioned by “R.